previously worked out for the anaesthetic procedure. In such circumstances, it is envisaged that the monitoring apparatus will have such procedures entered into the database and the monitoring apparatus will detect and then compare the removal of syringes S from the "ready" subcompartment **2***a* of the tray **1** against a predetermined "standard administration order" and not only will provide auditory/visual verification of the syringe S taken, but may also provide an auditory/visual or other warning to the anaesthetist of any variation from the predetermined routine of administration.

[**0051**] Whilst the invention has been described with reference to syringes S and trays **1** with an associated bar code reader, it is envisaged that in an alternative form of the invention the compartments **2** are provided with suitable sensing or detection means **6**, for example positioned in the base **7** of each subcompartment **2***a*/**2***b*. Further, the syringes S are provided with identification means thereon in the form of magnetic/digital devices and others, which can be readily detected by the sensors **6** placed within the base of the tray **1**.

[**0052**] The monitoring apparatus is set up to distinguish individual syringes S and drug classes and characteristics in the compartments **2** such that at any stage an accurate and reliable verification of supply, use and countback of drugs/syringes used can be provided and also be monitored against predetermined and anticipated usage manually or via the database as a cross-checking procedure.

[**0053**] Whilst the invention has been described with reference to the provision of sensors **6** placed within the base of the tray **1**, in alternative embodiments of the invention, it is envisaged that the upper portion of the trolley T, or some other support apparatus adapted to be used with the tray **1** of this invention may be provided with suitable sensors; the tray **1** being provided of a means substantially inert to interaction between the syringe code and the sensor **6** so as enable simple formation of the trays, or provision of the trays as a liner for separate support apparatus. In this way, it will be appreciated that the cost of tray **1** can be kept to a minimum and further, the sensors/monitoring apparatus will not interfere unduly with necessary sterilisation and other hygiene steps inevitably required.

[**0054**] In the preferred form of the invention, preferably the tray **1** apparatus is provided as a plastics or metal tray **1** able to be sterilised and adapted for ready placement and holding of the syringes S in the required layout for substantially standardised use and providing the first "ready" and the second "used" subcompartments **2***a* and **2***b* in a visually separate manner.

[**0055**] In the further embodiment of the invention as described predominantly with reference to **FIG. 3**, the drug tray **1** is vacuum formed in a thin sheet plastics material, for example transparent or translucent plastics sheet which is capable of being readily cleansed by heat, irradiation and the like. The tray **1** is preferably arranged in a generally "tapered" configuration-so as to be "nestably stackable" with similar trays **1**, such that a "pack" of trays **1** can be supplied for general use. Preferably the tray **1** is dimensioned for use with the standard drugs trolley T, substantially as shown in **FIG. 1** and further the outer peripheral dimensions of the tray **1** are such that preferably a pair of trays **1** according to **FIG. 3** can be mounted side-by-side on the standard drugs trolley T as is typically used in a theatre or other hospital situation, although such use is not essential.

[**0056**] In this form of the invention the sites or compartments **2** are positioned on either side of an enlargement **10** upon which a plurality of arcuate rests or syringe sites **11** are provided. The syringe sites **11** are in this form inclined toward a front **4** of the tray **1** such that syringes S can be readily supported, and viewable by the user. The syringe S after use is able to be positioned in the second compartment **2***b* which has tapered apertures provided in the second compartment **2***b* into which a boss B of the syringe S body can optionally frictionally engage, to thus mount the syringe S neatly in a secure and readily visible, verifiable substantially upright manner after use.

[**0057**] The syringe sites **11** also include a predetermined array (preferably three in respect to each compartment **2**"set") of arcuate rests into which the syringe S can be mounted, inclined forwardly to the user to provide good vision for the user and the syringe S and coding (for example colour coding) at **12** on the sites **11**, and on the body of the syringe S.

[**0058**] It will be appreciated that correspondingly coded and possibly prefilled syringes S or dedicated syringes S for particular drugs can be readily positioned on the relevant sites **11** on the rests and on the tray **1** in a verifiable positional relationship.

[**0059**] Preferably a supplementary area **15** is provided across the front **4** of the tray **1** for incidental items and the like as may be required during the course of the anaesthesia operation.

[**0060**] It is envisaged that the enlargement **10** created by the raised area defining the syringe sites **11** will readily enable the enclosed mounting of the monitoring apparatus described hereinbefore, or at least the sensor **6**.

[**0061**] It is also envisaged that the drugs trolley T can be arranged on it's upper portion thereof with an enlargement over which the tray **4** can fit. In this assembly coding **12** can be positioned either on the trolley T prior to the application of a tray **1** thereover, where the coding **12** can be "read" through transparent or translucent portions of the tray **1**, or alternatively, the coding **12** can be affixed on an underside of the tray **1**.

[**0062**] Preferably additional coding **12** may be provided substantially corresponding on a front face **16** of the enlargement **10** to enable additional simple code **12** verification relevant to the particular "row" of the compartments, the syringe sites **11** and in the second compartment **2***b*.

[**0063**] Where the invention incorporates the use of a "standard" drugs tray **1** incorporating a series of "standard" combinations of anaesthetics, it is to be appreciated that the drugs and drugs tray **1** may be stocked in a "package" form, where a recess provided beneath the enlargement **10** is used for storage of the drugs, syringes S and other items to be used in an anaesthesia operation, optionally contained within a tear-off sheet plastics sheet and the like releasably mounted across adjacent portions of an underside of the tray **1**, thus enclosing the items on the underside of the tray **1** which on removal therefrom can be used with the tray **1** in the manner previously described.

[**0064**] The stackable nature of the tray in one alternative embodiment enables a convenient "bulk" store of trays **1** to